

George ~~Sumner~~  
W<sup>th</sup> CarolinaW<sup>th</sup> Co; admitted. March 8<sup>th</sup> 1820

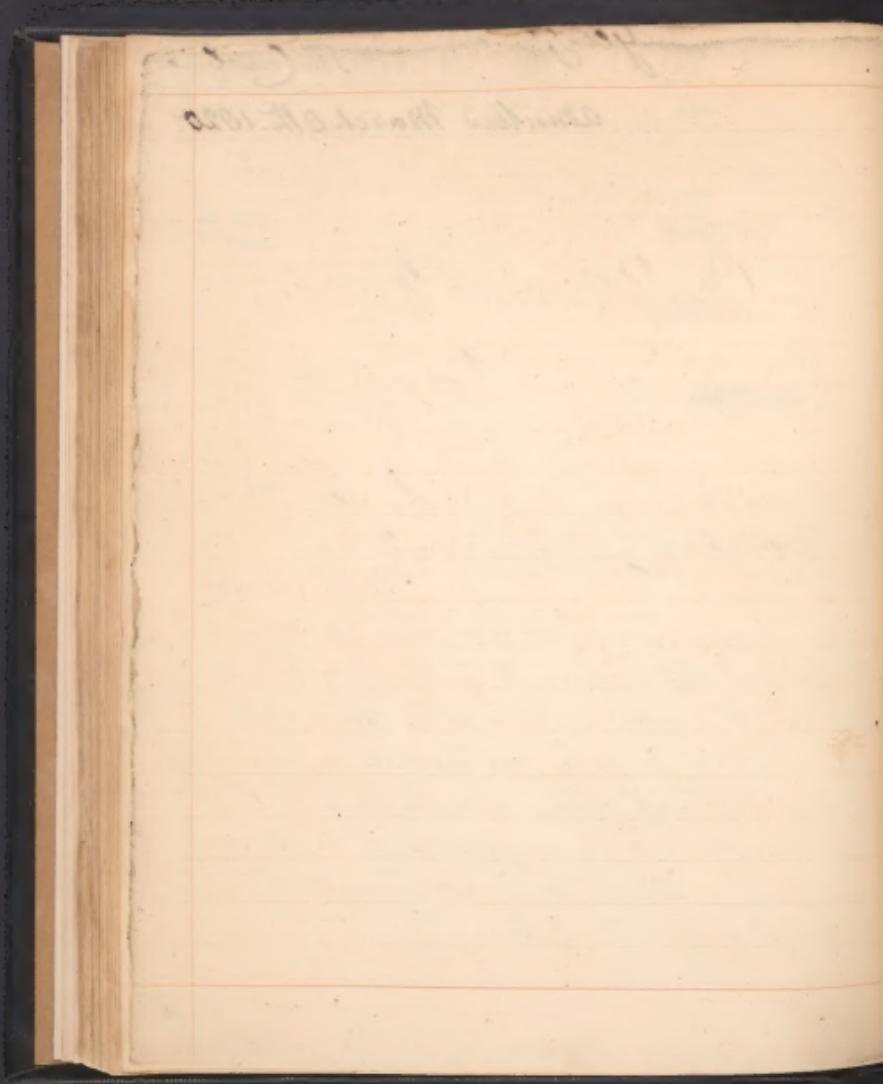
Mr. Chapman.

NO 3On *Plegmasia Dolens*.

Superficial swellings  
of the inferior extremities are called in our  
vernacular language Milk Sog, by the French  
depots de lait, by the Germans Milchsaus  
and technically *Plegmasia Dolens*.

Of the causes  
of this complaint little has been ascertained.  
Medical writers seem to have entertained  
different opinions relative to its true nature.

Mr. White, who has written on this subject,  
thought it was owing to a rupture of the  
lymphatics, which he believes to be effected  
by pressure of the child's head against the sum  
of the Placenta during labour.



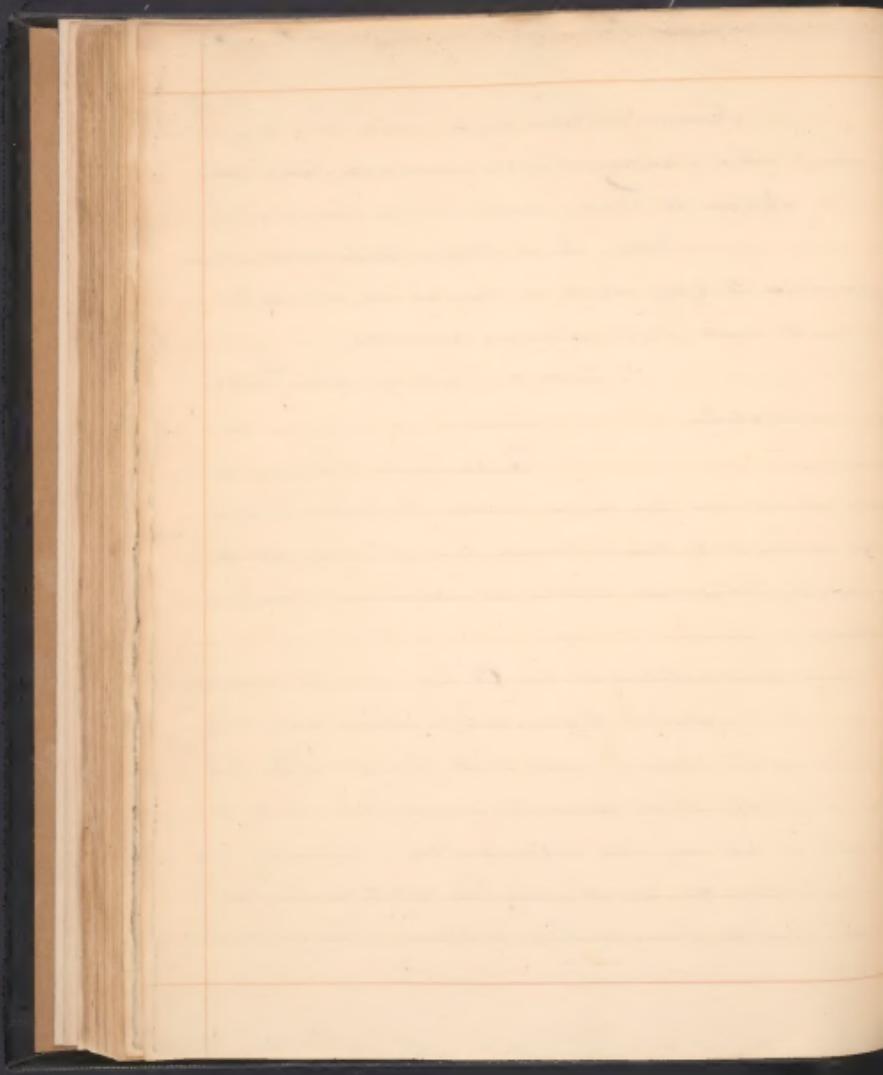
Several arguments have been urged against this theory. I will mention one or two which appear to carry with them some weight.

First. It is stated that it sometimes supervenes to easy and natural as well as to difficult and protracted labours.

Second. That it should take place immediately.

Third. That cases are met with in which we have reason to believe that the rupture of one or more lymphatic vessels actually happens, where no swelling of this kind follows.

In dislocations of the *Co. humeri* for example, when the capsular ligament is torn, and the head of the bone forced into the acetilla, it is very probable that some of lymphatics may give way. Yet we are not acquainted with any circumstances, in which the absorbent vessels, or conglobate glands have become enlarged and



hædened, accompanied with this peculiar kind of effusion, though such dislocations have not been reduced for months.

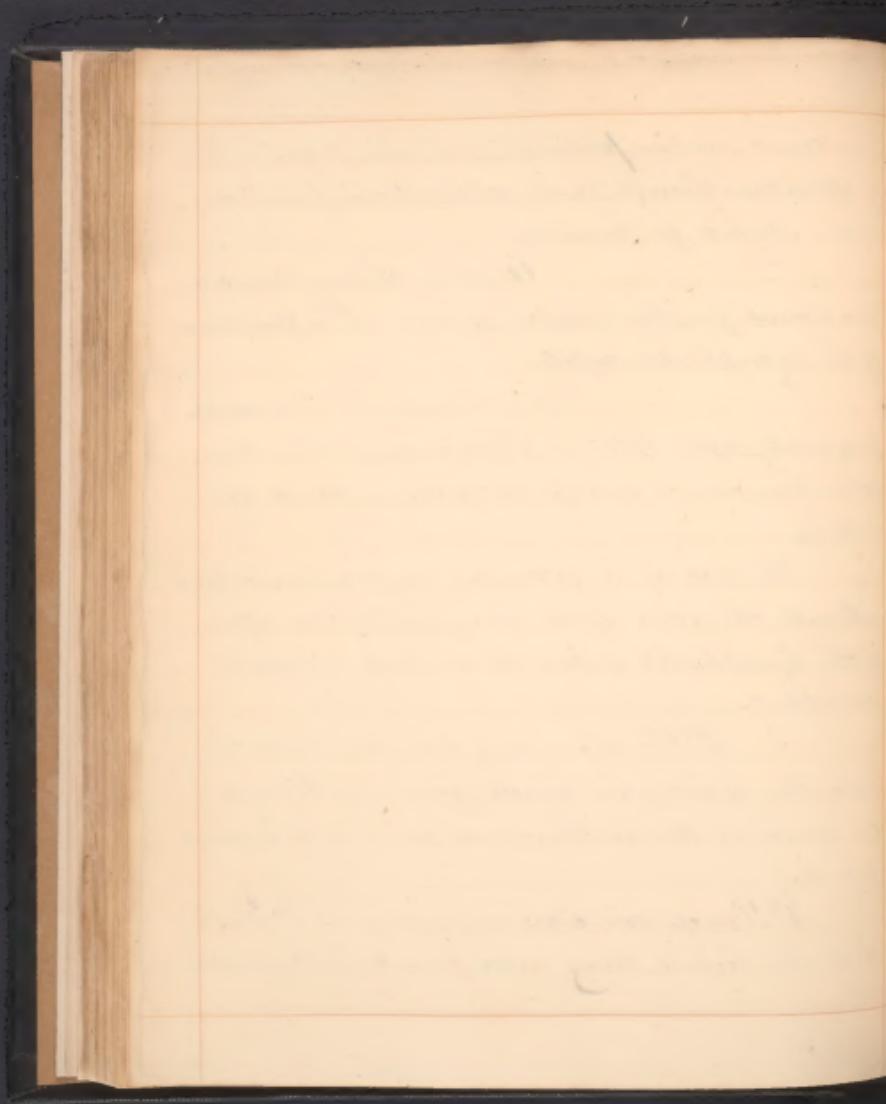
Another theory advanced to account for this disease, supposes an inflammation of the lymphatic vessels.

It is thought to occur more frequently after uterine hemorrhage than any other previous or subsequent circumstance of delivery.

The fact of its following profuse hemorrhage submits the idea of its being inflammation of the lymphatic vessels, or at least makes it doubtful.

D<sup>r</sup> Denman is of opinion that the absorption of ciliated matter from the uterus is the cause of the swelling and pain of the inguinal glands.

D<sup>r</sup> Dewes coincides in part with D<sup>r</sup> Hull that the disease may also form an inflammation

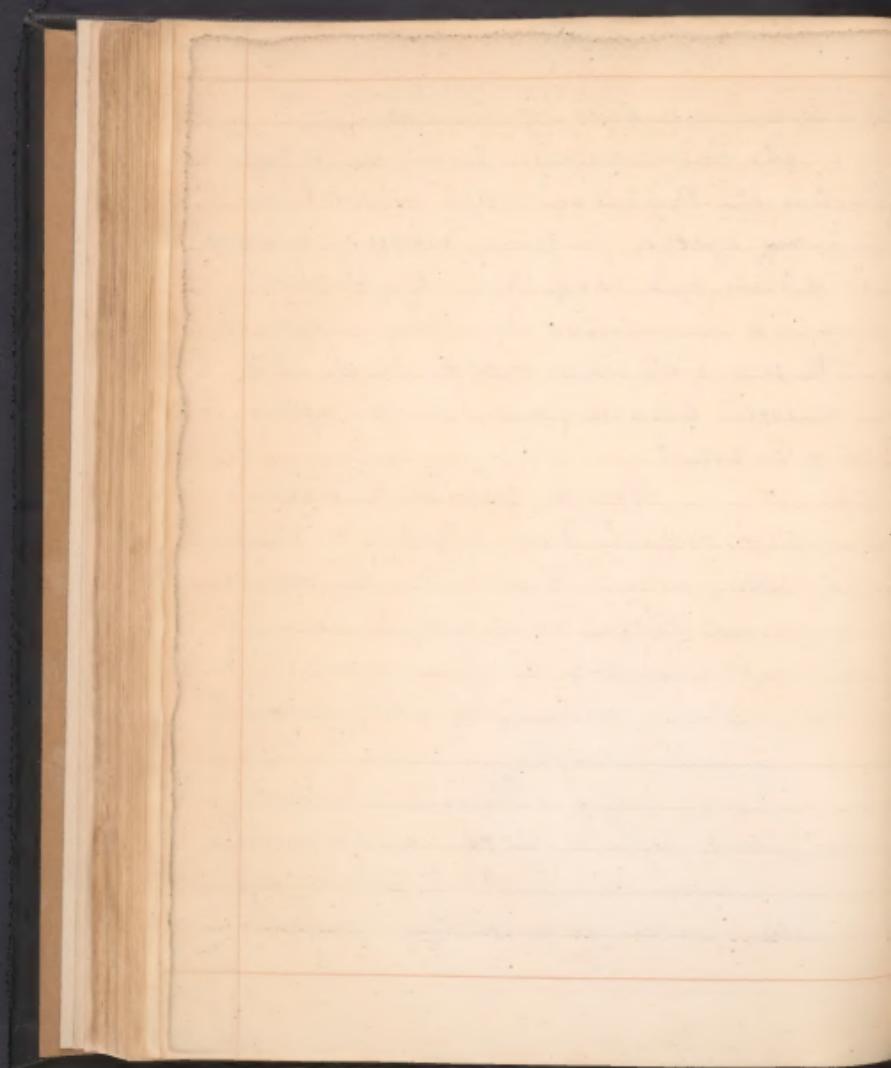


of the cellular membrane of the limb.

No doubt remains in my mind, says Hull that the Protrinate cause consists in an inflammatory affection, producing suddenly a considerable effusion of Serum and exsudating lymph from the exhalents into the cellular membrane, and goes on to say, The seat of the inflammation I believe to be in the muscles cellular, membranes and inferior surface of the cutis.

Professor James in his lecture on this subject observes, From whatever cause this purporeal swelling may arise it differs from edematous in generally not pitting, or at least in a very slight degree, by pressure and it would generally seem to be owing to some circumstance that occurs after delivery of the patient.

The disease occurs from the first 24 hours to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or the 4<sup>th</sup> week, commonly between the 6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> day after delivery. If we believe writers no constitution or condition

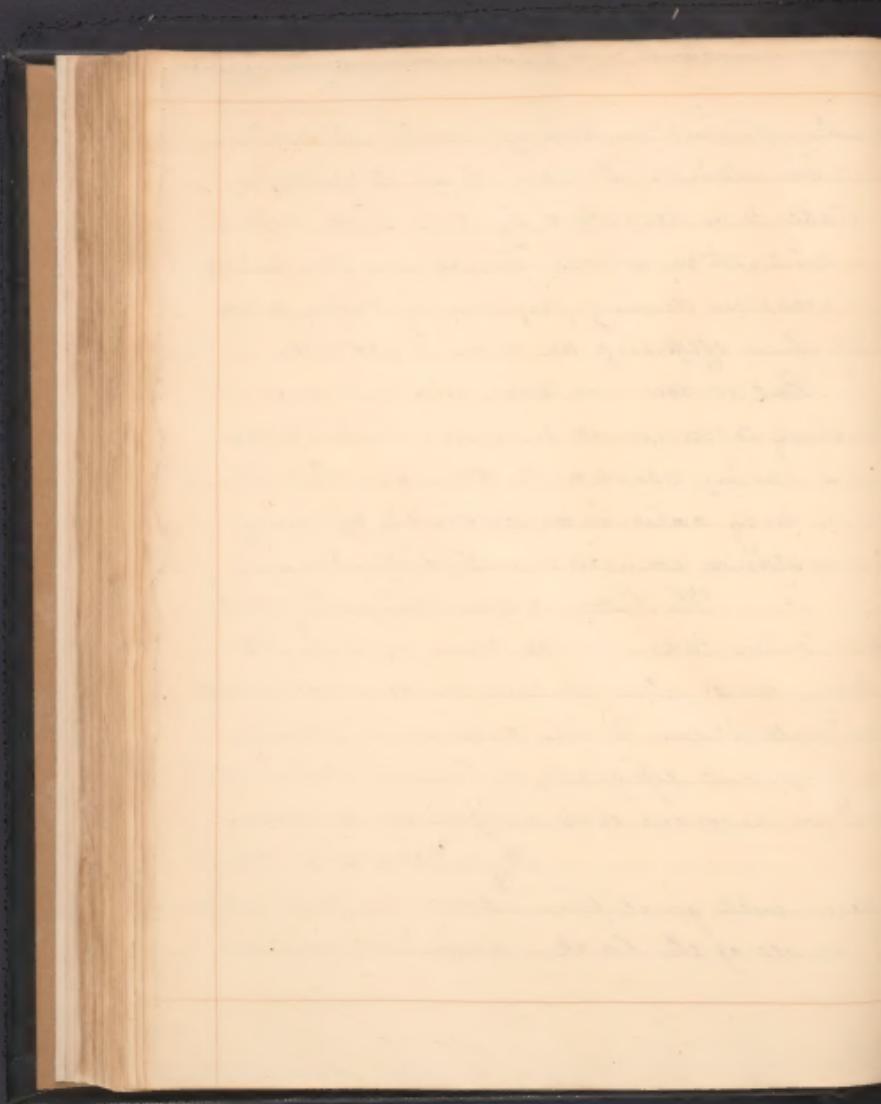


can be a prolonged suffering to women obnoxious to the complaint. Women of all descriptions are liable to be attacked by it in Childbed; but it is said those, whose <sup>3</sup> limbs have been pained or anaesthetized during pregnancy, & who, do not suckle their offspring, are more liable to it.

But it does not seem also to be confined exclusively to puerperal women, several Medical writers having adopted the opinion that the disease may exist independently of every circumstance connected with parturition.

The history of cases are found attested where it has taken place some months after delivery, and where it was in connected with non parturition. It has occurred in women not puerperal especially in Cancer. Other and cases are recorded of its happening in men.

Symptoms. The patient is plagued with great pain about the groin hips and small of the back, accompanied with



















## Reduction

is the process of reducing a system of linear equations to a simpler form. It is used to solve systems of linear equations by finding the values of the variables that satisfy all the equations simultaneously. The process involves performing a series of operations on the equations, such as adding or subtracting multiples of one equation from another, to eliminate variables and simplify the system.

There are several methods for performing reduction, including the Gaussian elimination method and the matrix inverse method. The Gaussian elimination method involves performing row operations on the augmented matrix of the system of equations to transform it into an upper triangular matrix, which can then be solved using back-substitution. The matrix inverse method involves finding the inverse of the coefficient matrix and multiplying it by the constant matrix to find the solution vector.

Reduction is a fundamental technique in linear algebra and is used in many applications, such as engineering, physics, and economics.

Chances are all the equations in a linear system will not have a unique solution. In such cases, the system is said to be inconsistent or dependent.



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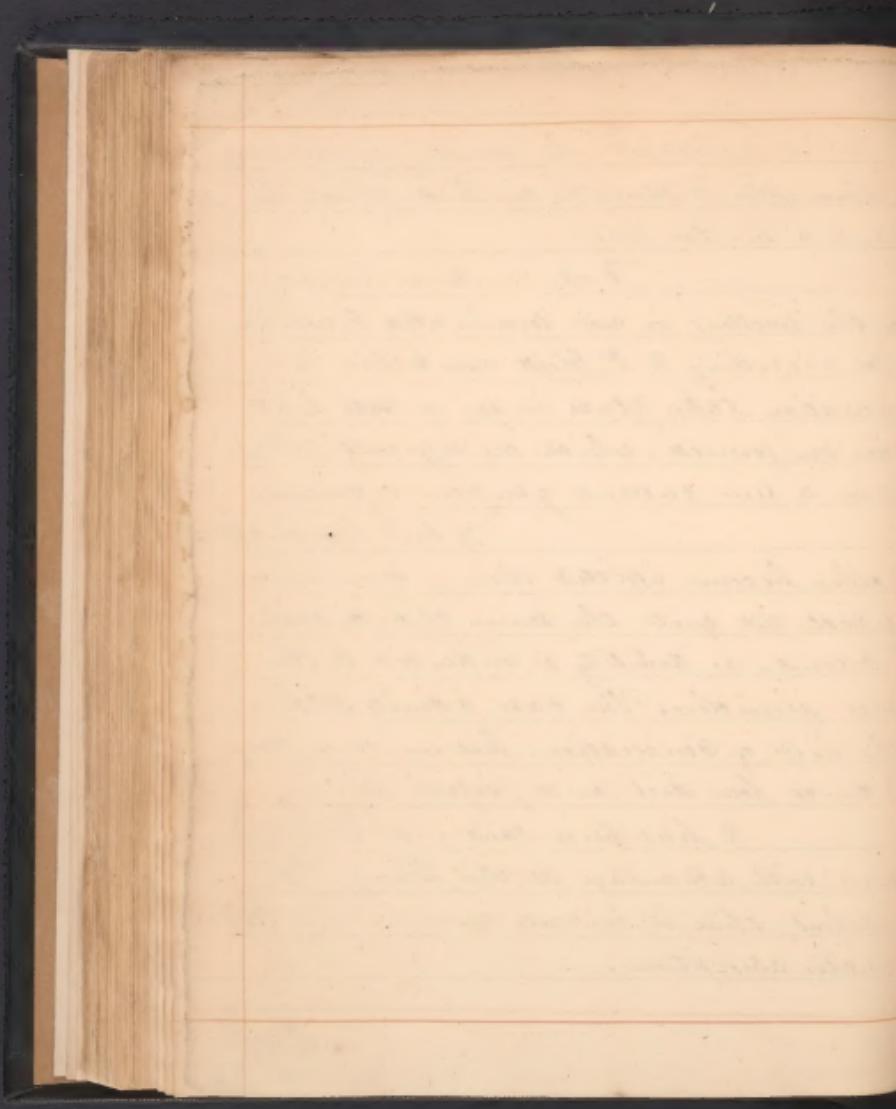
As I have noticed, the disease, unfortunately sometimes after it abates in one limb, attacks the other in a similar way.

It also sometimes happens, that the swelling is not terminated by resolution.

For according to Dr. Glatt now & then a suppuration takes place in one or both legs, ulcers are formed, which are difficult to heal, and in a few cases, a gangrene supervenes.

If both legs, one after the other, become affected, there is some reason to expect not quite the same chance with the second, as debility is induced by the former - remedies. The case admits seldom of the help of venesection, but we may purge and strict low diet and perfect rest.

It has been said that Rosin may be used with advantage at this time of the complaint; that it imports strength, and also promotes absorption.



The manner in which it is used is by heating  
the leg with it. For this purpose the leg is  
made bare and a tub is placed under it  
in which place a handful of Coals and just  
some Rosin on them. A blanket should be spread  
over the tub. Continue this 8 or 10 minutes at  
a time.

To conclude what I have to say  
relative to the cure of this disease I may add  
that we may generally with some degree  
of confidence hope for a cure, where the  
remedies enumerated are employed under  
proper regulations and a constant attention  
to the other circumstances of the disease.

